

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a revision identification register to store a revision identification value of the apparatus, and
a revision identification modification register, the revision identification modification register
to allow modification of the revision identification register contents when indicated by the contents
of the revision identification modification register.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the revision identification
modification register includes a single bit, the state of the bit indicating whether the contents of the
revision identification register are currently modifiable.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein a value of “1” in the revision
identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will accept any
value written to the revision identification register.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein a value of “0” in the revision
identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will ignore any
writes to the revision identification register.
6. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
determining whether a current revision identification value stored in a revision identification
register indicates a first device stepping;
ensuring that a revision identification modification register contains a value that indicates
that the revision identification register will accept writes; and
replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that
indicates the first device stepping if the current revision identification value does not indicate the
first device stepping.
7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
placing a value in the revision identification modification register that indicates that the revision identification register will not accept writes, the placing a value in the revision identification modification register occurring following replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping.

9. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
executing a pre-operating system software agent, the pre-operating software agent to determine whether ~~to modify~~ a value stored in a revision identification register indicates a first device stepping;
accessing a revision identification modification register;
modifying the value stored in the revision identification register to indicate the first device stepping if modification of the revision identification register is enabled according to contents of the revision identification modification register and the value stored in the revision identification register indicates an updated device stepping; and
loading an operating system.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein modifying the value stored in the revision identification register includes replacing the value stored in the revision identification register with a value that indicates the first device stepping if the value stored in the revision identification register does not indicate the first device stepping.

12. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a computer system, causes the computer system to perform a method comprising:

determining whether a current revision identification value stored in a revision identification register indicates a first device stepping;

ensuring that a revision identification modification register contains a value that indicates that the revision identification register will accept writes; and

replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping if the current revision identification value does not indicate the first device stepping.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon additional instructions which, when executed, perform:

placing a value in the revision identification modification register that indicates that the revision identification register will not accept writes, the placing a value in the revision identification modification register occurring following replacing the current revision identification value with the revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping.

15. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a computer system, causes the computer system to perform a method comprising:

executing a pre-operating system software agent, the pre-operating software agent to determine whether ~~to modify~~ a value stored in a revision identification register indicates a first device stepping;

accessing a revision identification modification register;

modifying the value stored in the revision identification register to indicate the first device stepping if modification of the revision identification register is enabled according to contents of the revision identification modification register and the value stored in the revision identification register indicates an updated device stepping; and

loading an operating system.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine readable medium of claim 15, wherein modification of the revision identification register is enabled if the value stored in the revision identification register does not indicates a first device stepping.

17. (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 16, wherein modifying the value stored in the revision identification register includes replacing the value stored in the revision identification register with a value that indicates the first device stepping if the value stored in the revision identification register does not indicate the first device stepping.

18. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:

a processor;

a system logic device coupled to the processor, the system logic device comprising:

at least one functional unit ~~to provide~~ coupled via a communications link with a device, the functional unit including:

a revision identification register to store a revision identification value of the device; and

a revision identification modification register, the revision identification modification register to allow modification of the revision identification register contents when indicated by the contents of the revision identification modification register; and

a non-volatile memory to store a pre-operating system software agent, the pre-operating software agent to determine whether to modify ~~the value~~ an updated device stepping stored in the revision identification register with a first device stepping.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18, wherein the revision identification modification register includes a single bit, the state of the bit indicating whether the contents of the revision identification register are currently modifiable.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein a value of “1” in the revision identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will accept any value written to the revision identification register.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein a value of “0” in the revision identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will ignore any writes to the revision identification register.

23 (Currently Amended) A system logic device, comprising:
at least one functional unit ~~to provide~~ coupled via a communications link with a device, the functional unit including:

a revision identification register to store a revision identification value of the device,
and

a revision identification modification register, the revision identification modification register to allow modification of the revision identification register contents when indicated by the contents of the revision identification modification register to restore the revision identification value of the device.

24 (Previously Presented) The system logic device of claim 23, wherein the system logic device comprises a chipset.

25 (Previously Presented) The system logic device of claim 24, wherein the chipset comprises an input/output (I/O) controller hub.

26. (Previously Presented) The system logic device of claim 25, wherein the chipset further comprises a memory controller hub coupled to the I/O controller hub.

27. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
accessing configuration registers of a device to determine whether a value stored in a revision identification register indicates an updated device stepping;
accessing a revision identification modification register of the configuration registers to determine whether contents of the revision identification modification register indicate that the revision identification register will accept writes; and
restoring the value within the revision identification register to indicate a first device stepping if the revision identification modification register contents indicate that the revision identification register will accept writes.

28. (Previously Presented) A bus device comprising:
a plurality of configuration registers, the plurality of configuration registers including a revision identification register to store a revision identification value of the bus device, and a revision identification modification register, the revision identification modification register to allow modification of the revision identification register contents when indicated by contents of the revision identification modification register.